

Archival description - preparing for a new version of EAD

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Presenters and facilitators

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A brief introduction to TS-EAS



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American
Archivists

Technical Subcommittee on
Encoded Archival Standards

TS-EAS

- Technical Subcommittee on Encoded Archival Standards at the Society of American Archivists (SAA)
- Background and work covered in this presentation:
 - <https://youtu.be/9NXNyx9py-I>

We take care of the formats you use to manage and share archival information

We need your comments, suggestions and bug reports

Your input drives our work forward



Where you can find more

Websites and general information

TS EAS

<https://www2.archivists.org/groups/technical-subcommittee-on-encoded-archival-standards-ts-eas>



TS EAS on GitHub

<https://github.com/SAA-SDT>



EAD publication

<http://www.loc.gov/ead/index.html>



EAC publication

<https://eac.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/>



How you can get in contact

Mailing list and reporting options

Our mailing list

EAD@LISTSERV.LOC.GOV



E-mail

ts-eas@archivists.org



Reporting an issue via GitHub

<https://github.com/SAA-SDT>



Reporting an issue via SAA

<https://www2.archivists.org/standards/TS-EAS-report-an-issue>



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How TS-EAS works

Membership and teams

Membership

50/50 SAA members and international members

International includes mostly Europe, but also South America, Africa, Asia, and Oceania

Teams

Teams for EAD, EAC-CPF, Functions

Schema team

Outreach team



Standards revision

Minor revisions

Annual rolling revision cycle for minor releases

(see more on GitHub:

<https://github.com/SAA-SDT/TS-EAS-subteam-notes/blob/master/rolling-revision-cycle.md>)



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Standards revision

Major revision

Evaluate standards for potential major revision every five years following guidelines by SAA's Standards Committee

(see more:

<https://www2.archivists.org/governance/handbook/section7/groups/Standards/Development-and-Review>)



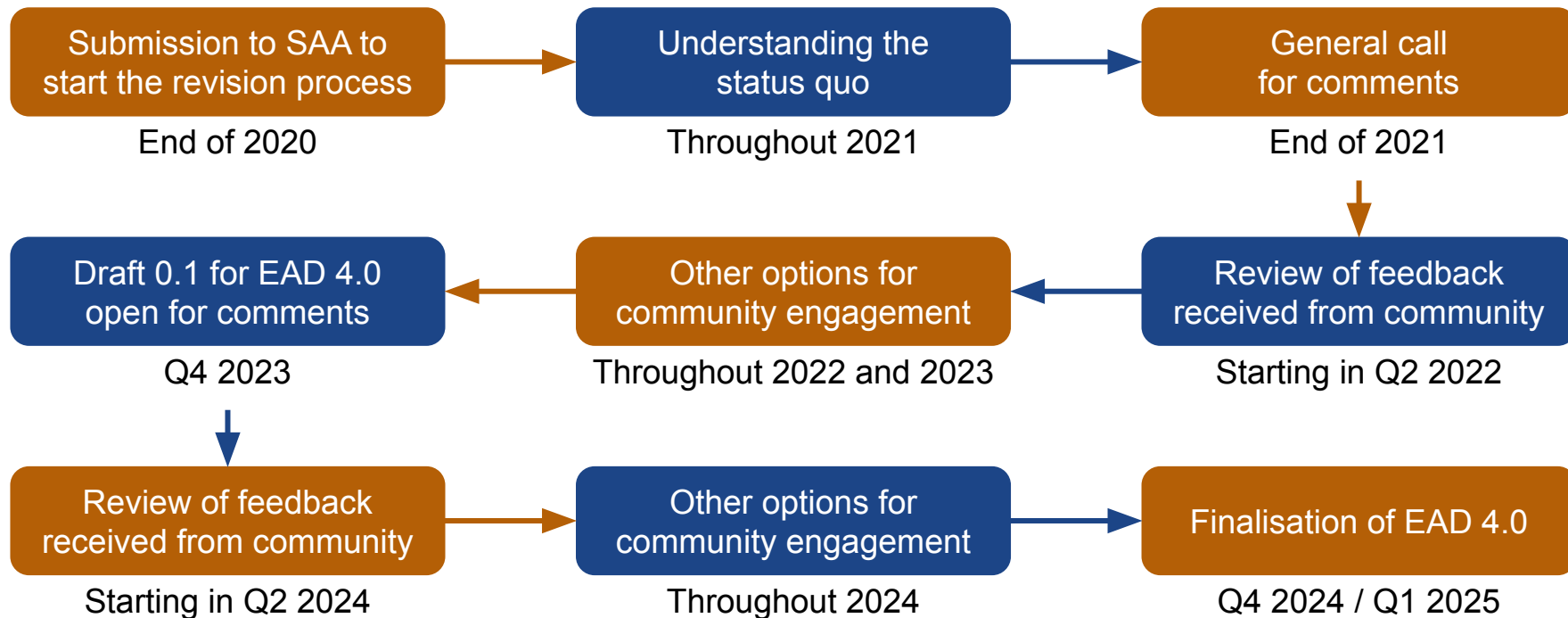
The major revision of EAD



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Timeline



Timeline

Submission of EAD 4.0 to
SAA for approval

Q1 2025

Publication of EAD 4.0

Q2 / Q3 2025

Monthly meetings of the EAD team
Possibly one or two multi-day meetings of the EAD team
Throughout the revision process



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Timeline in the context of today's webinar

Options for community
engagement

Throughout 2022 and 2023

General webinars

Targeted webinars

Other events

Options for community
engagement

Throughout 2024

*e.g. to clarify feedback and
get examples / use cases*

The challenges of the status quo

- Two versions of EAD widely used in parallel to each other
 - A new version needs to be of benefit for both, users of EAD 2002 and EAD3

The challenges of the status quo

- EAD is mainly an exchange format
 - Still some use in hands-on XML work
 - But more often “only” an export format
 - A new version needs to pick up on what archivists need to describe and on what users want to search, while being as straightforward as possible for machines to process

The main strands of the revision

- Alignment with EAC-CPF 2.0
 - Following a shared schema approach to enable more interoperability between the EAS, e.g.
 - camelCase spelling
 - Enhanced approaches to date and place encoding
 - Additional possibilities for document-internal and document-external referencing

The main strands of the revision

- Relations to other standards
 - Records in Contexts
 - PREMIS (and preservation metadata in general)
 - BIBFRAME
 - schema.org Architypes
 - JSON and/or JSON-LD (as schema deliverable)

Other aspects of the revision

- Digital objects
 - Digitised material, but also born-digital
- Support for multilinguality
- Mapping to and integration of Linked Data vocabularies
- Granularity of encoding
 - Question of formatting and mixed content
 - Option of simple and extended versions (in consideration)

Contextual aspects of the revision

- Ease of being able to upgrade
 - Making the incentives clear(er) to upgrade from EAD 2002 and/or EAD3 to the new version
 - Official transformations
 - Potentially templates for the new version in different formats

Contextual aspects of the revision

- Supporting resources
 - Tag Library and Best Practice Guide
 - Mappings and crosswalks with related standards
 - Example files and use cases

Contextual aspects of the revision

- Tools and techniques
 - Maybe plugins for solution providers to use
 - Maybe cooperation with SyncroSoft (oXygen)
- Education
 - Making education resources more international
 - Making education resources more adaptable to different contexts

Breakout rooms



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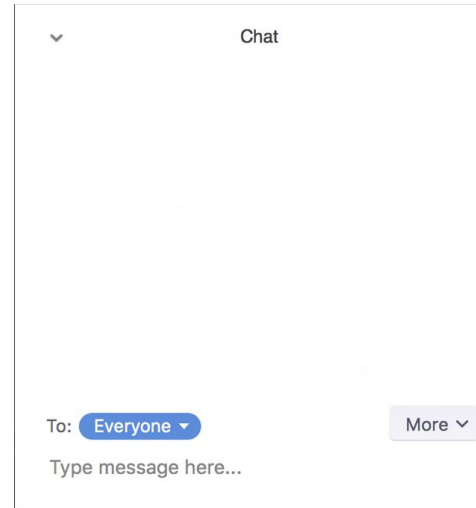
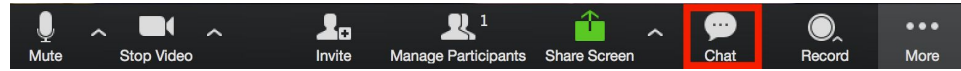
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Summary and more room questions and discussion



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Use **chat** for questions

Thank you very much for your participation!

Report an issue via <https://www2.archivists.org/standards/TS-EAS-report-an-issue> or
<https://github.com/SAA-SDT/EAD3/issues/new>

The recording will be available on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/saastaff>

Please complete our survey: <https://forms.gle/4pKDVH7RpQKU8iXA>